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parents and teachers. It is a gospel of wise and patient optimism in dealing with that newly discovered creature, the "adolescent," whom we have ever had with us, but strangely misunderstood. The application of "the parable of the tadpole's tail" will not be forgotten nor fail to be applied by teachers and parents. Professor Moulton, by concrete examples, maintains the thesis that "a clear grasp of the outward literary form [in Bible study] is essential to the understanding of the matter and spirit." Thus the literary study of the Bible is directly related to devotional and to higher critical study. Practical suggestions follow, leading to the application of the whole to Christian education in three stages: "the stage of stories, the stage of masterpieces, and the stage of literary groups."

Not the least element of value in these lectures, devoted to special topics, is the reiteration, in new and varied forms, of general educational principles. In his lecture on "Biography in Religious Instruction" Dr. McMurry says: "What we are aiming at primarily in religious instruction is the *development of a permanent interest* in religious facts. . . . In the Sunday school, as in the day school, we are growing more and more inclined to accept an *interested attitude of mind* as the largest immediate end to work for." Says Dr. Hervey: "It is a 'law of the intellectual jungle' that only on the introduction of some one already in can entrance be granted to him who is without." Herbartians should print that upon the title-pages of their books.

The reader of these ten lectures is, at last, impressed with the unity and completeness of the book as a whole. It fills a gap hitherto existing in educational literature. It is of prime importance, and will be read and re-read with keen interest, not only by Sunday-school teachers and clergymen, but by parents, public-school teachers, college and university instructors, and all who care to look below the surface and behind and beyond tradition in matters of education.

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A STUDY OF CHRISTIAN MISSIONS. By WILLIAM NEWTON CLARKE. New York: Scribner, 1900. Pp. 268. \$1.25.

TWO THOUSAND YEARS OF MISSIONS BEFORE CAREY. By LEMUEL CALL BARNES. Chicago: The Christian Culture Press, 1900. Pp. xi + 505. \$1.50.

THE volume on Christian missions by Dr. Clarke, professor of theology in Hamilton Theological Seminary, Colgate University, and

author of *An Outline of Christian Theology*, is of exceptional interest. It is, as its title implies, a study of the regnant ideal of practical Christianity, conducted with the author's fine insight, calm discernment, and facile treatment, from the viewpoint of one who is a master in both historical theology and present-day apologetics. It turns a modern intellectual searchlight of penetrating power upon the old theme of God's redemptive purpose and its historical outcome in this age of human progress, and pronounces a strong verdict in favor of missions as a first duty and an essential factor in the church life of our day. It is a kind of spiritual review lesson in Christian history, resulting in the practical accentuation of a permanent missionary obligation. Dr. Clarke has his own theological standpoint, but in reading this book we need not concern ourselves to discover it. His conclusions on the subject he treats will be a helpful and cheering message to liberal and conservative alike. He builds the walls of the twentieth-century Zion. He speaks to the Christian church of today, with no uncertain sound, of the certainties which belong to all the centuries. His focal point of urgency, and his final judgment upon living issues, coincide with the outspoken and earnest conclusions of the most conservative disciple of a severe theological discipline. There is something about the temper and tone of the book which leads one to the heights, and we seem to survey the great unifying theme of missions in cheerful unconsciousness of theological debate and dogmatic differences. We enter a common realm of harmonious conviction and indivisible purpose. Every reader of the book feels that he is brought to the foot of the evangelical cross, and that he is there under the spell of an immutable and unchallengeable duty.

The book deals with fundamentals: the unmistakable missionary character of Christianity, the motive, the object, and the field. A chapter is devoted to the essential nature of non-Christian religions, the proper estimate, and the practical method of missions in dealing with them. World-religions, while they may be regarded as formulations of the religious instincts of man, are, nevertheless, shown to be, as they now exist, incumbrances upon his higher nature. The author's arraignment is severe, but not bitter; it is unsparing, but soberly true. The peculiar virtue of Christianity as the herald of a good and helpful God is made prominent. Its revelation of the perfect God is shown to be what the world universally needs. Victory rather than compromise is the only possible aim of Christian missions. Concerning methods of missionary aggressiveness at close quarters with other

religions, he emphasizes, as essential factors in the plan of campaign, an intelligent grasp of the content of these religions, an unflinching fidelity to gospel truth, a sympathetic touch at the point of personal contact, and the supreme advocacy of Christ "as the one who brings completion to all the partial good that other religions contain."

Problems of organization in the supervision and guidance of the mission activities of the church; the strength and weakness, the virtues and faults, of denominationalism as related to missions, are discussed, and the capacity of the missionary motive to survive and assert itself independently of ecclesiastical lines, if need be, is asserted.

The present crisis—as Dr. Clarke views it—the next need, the outlook, and the incisive appeal of missions to the home church, are all dwelt upon in separate chapters, with a happy optimism and at the same time a searching insistence which give the book a special value to the pastors of our churches. It is dedicated with manifest appropriateness "To the Pastors of America." It is a good book for ministers to take away with them on a summer vacation, and to read thoughtfully chapter by chapter, in the stillness of the mountains, or by the vastness of the ocean, where the calm touch of nature puts their spirits in tune with the great and ennobling thoughts of God as they are suggestively unfolded in this luminous little volume. The broad outlook, the masterful faith, the stimulating forcefulness, and the powerful movement of this profound study is just the tonic which a pastor—wary with drudgery and burdened with detail—needs, to send him back to his pulpit with fresh enthusiasm and quickened power. It is a prophet's message to our own times in our own spiritual tongue.

The volume by Rev. Mr. Barnes is a useful handbook of missions, accentuating the fact that they have been a characteristic feature of church history and an instinctive impulse of the Christian life. Missionary effort in the nineteenth century is ruled out of view by the scope of the book. Its range is from the founding of the Christian church to the entrance of Carey upon his great mission near the close of the eighteenth century. After an instructive study of the providential preparations for the missionary advent of Christ, apostolic, post-apostolic, Armenian, Nestorian, Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, and post-Reformation missions are treated in order. The presentation is condensed, rapid, well proportioned, and at the same time very comprehensive. The book is fairly weighted with names, facts, personalities, incidents, dates, data, and emphatic memoranda; yet the

arrangement is excellent, and the reader is helped by typographical devices, chronological tables, illustrations, and maps ingeniously prepared to convey historical as well as geographical information. A judiciously selected bibliography and a useful index round out an impressive and unique presentation of the missionary history of Christianity before the modern era. As a text-book for mission study it may be made very instructive and effective. Here and there an evident slip in proof-reading should be corrected on the margin. The date for the publication of the New Testament into Cingalese given on p. 103 as 1873 should be 1783; Ziegenbalg's term of service in India (p. 105) should be thirteen years instead of ten; the date of Raymond Lull's birth (p. 205) should be 1234, or perhaps more correctly 1236, instead of 1334.

The book brings out in clear relief one very timely and cheering note of encouragement to missionary devotion in the church today. It is the fact that Christianity in all ages, whether of sunshine or shadow, whether of growth or decay, in times of corruption and degeneracy, as well as of spiritual fervor and power, has never failed to recognize in some measure the missionary obligation. In this century of superb incentive and alluring opportunity, missionary Christianity should surely arise and shine, for her light has indeed come.

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NEW YORK CITY.

THE INFLUENCE OF CHRIST IN MODERN LIFE. A Study of the New Problems of the Church in American Society. By NEWELL DWIGHT HILLIS. New York: Macmillan. Pp. xi + 416. \$1.50.

In the fifteen chapters of this book the author sets forth Christ as the great power that transforms both men and society. Some of the chapters are addresses delivered "before various colleges and universities," and were "not written from the viewpoint of the scholar or the philosopher," but "for the educated young men of the country, who are troubled by the skepticism of the times," and for the honest toilers who have little time for reading and study.

The volume contains much that is worthy of warm commendation. The author exalts Christ. In an attractive style he sets forth thoughts pertinent to our times, that will tend to dissipate doubt and recall men to faith in the unchanging verities of the gospel. But while we find so much that is excellent, faithfulness constrains us to say that